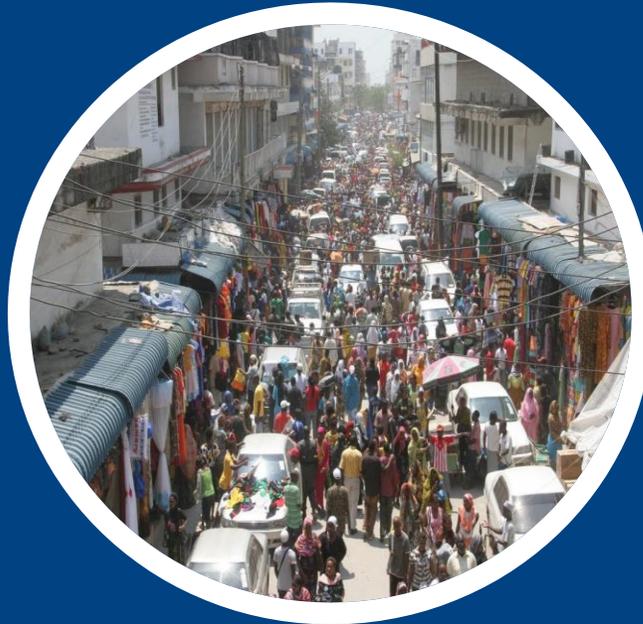


International instruments & current initiatives



Agenda

1. Introduction

2. International instruments

3. Initiatives

4. Hot topics

5. Discussion

Introduction

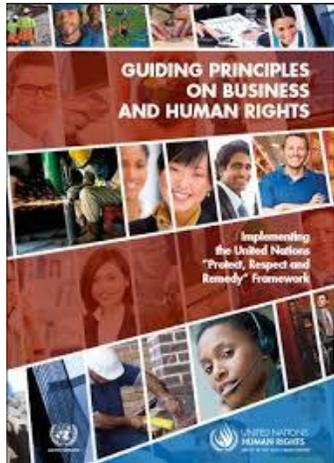
- “**Responsible business conduct**” and “**business and human rights**” are used interchangeably. They are single labels to describe a broad range of activities and issues that encompass an increasingly large number of stakeholders.
- This is reflected by the increasingly diverse range of initiatives around the world and the range of actors engaging on the topic.
- Polycentric governance: The legal and governance ecosystem comprises an increasingly inter-connected network of: hard law, government and public policy, private law obligations, industry or sectoral standards and/or guidelines, stock exchange listing rules, as well as voluntary transparency and accountability initiatives.
- The “movement” is becoming more established, but it also remains personality driven (institutional rivalry & challenges of policy coherence).

International instruments

- International Bill of Human Rights
- UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights
- OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
- Fundamental rights set out in ILO's 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
- ILO MNE Declaration (revised in 2017)
- UN Global Compact's 10x Principles
- ISO: 26000 guidance, new standard on OSH management systems (ISO 45001), new guidance on sustainable procurement (ISO 20400)
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Initiatives



- Wide variety of efforts to implement: UNGPs, OECD Guidelines, ILO MNE Declaration, UNGC's 10 Principles, ISO tools.
- Efforts to support business to contribute to the SDGs.
- UN Intergovernmental Working Group to elaborate a Treaty on TNCs (and other biz enterprises?)
- G7 / G20 processes
- ILO's programme on Global Supply Chains
- NGO push for more progress on "access to remedy" for victims
- Benchmarks
- Efforts to address clampdown on civic space & human rights defenders

Hot topics

- Sustainable Development Goals
- Legislative developments (especially mandatory human rights due diligence)
- Access to remedy (third pillar of the UNGPs)
- Extraterritorial obligations (ETO)
- Global supply chains
- Focus on “parent” companies and role of Home and Host States
- Slavery, human trafficking & forced labour
- Meaningful transparency
- Decent work (company-union dialogue & living wage)
- Follow the money! Role and responsibilities of financiers
- Civic space and Human rights defenders
- Land-related disputes
- State’s should “lead by example” (State as an economic actor)

Group discussion

How do employers & companies navigate the “responsible business conduct” ecosystem, and take concrete action to meet the growing expectations on them?